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(no case #)

*File*

Chief, D/R

29 August 1951

Chief, D/S

Comments on Suggested List of Installations in Norway

1. In compliance with your request, we have examined the installation list sent by OPC. We have no specific comment on sections 1 to 6. In section 7 (Transportation) the railroad lines from Oslo north to Trondheim seem to have been omitted. These are of great importance. The Skjonsta-Sandnes Railroad Line (Svitjelma) could not be located on our list.

2. We would like to make the comment that even though all of the installations listed were damaged or destroyed, this would not make Soviet occupation untenable, or unprofitable. Occupation of Norway would be undertaken primarily for strategic reasons, mainly for air and naval bases, and only secondarily for economic reasons. Denial of the facilities shown here, however, would make Soviet occupation economically unprofitable.

3. May we suggest that Spitzbergen -- north of Norway -- might be an important objective for any Soviet attack because of its very favorable situation for staging raids on United States and Canadian targets and because American planes based here could range far into Russian areas. Russian coal mines are now operated there and it is worth noting that a British concession area adjacent to the Russian one is now reportedly up for sale to the Russians or anyone else. There were formerly American mines in Spitzbergen and it might perhaps be desirable to reopen them by buying out the British concession so that tabs might be kept on Russian activities. Spitzbergen has very large quantities of rather mediocre grade coal and a full-scale development there, using mechanized mining, might also help to reduce the West European coal deficit which now gives Poland such heavy bargaining power for strategic commodities produced in Western lands. As a strict business proposition, a large coal development in Spitzbergen might not pay but since we are compelled to shoulder very heavy expenses in making good Western Europe coal deficits from American production, sums spent on increasing Spitzbergen's output might represent a true economy. Of course, strategic advantages would also appear.

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(no case #)

THRU : D/R  
Chief, Materials Division  
Acting Chief, Ferrous Metals Branch

30 August 1951

Industrial Targets in Norway.

In accordance with your request, we have reviewed the submitted list of industrial targets from the viewpoint of ferrous metallurgy. Available information indicates that an appreciable number of the major ore fields and mines, and iron and steel plants are not included. Therefore, we have prepared a revised list which is attached.

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Enclosure: 1

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NORWAY

Ore Mines

1. Iron Ore

a. Sydvaranger at Kirkenes in Sorvaranger county of Finnmark on South shores of Varanger Fjord between 69° and 70° - only two miles from Soviet border - destroyed during late war now largely rehabilitated - largest industrial development since the war - with potential ore reserves estimated at one billion tons - Fe content approximately 33%.

b. Second largest iron ore field is the Dunderland ore field owned by the Norwegian Government and located north of the town of Mo just below the arctic circle 66°30' - about 22 miles from Rana harbor.

c. Other iron ore fields at:

- (1) Fosdalen
- (2) Meisingset
- (3) Rodsand
- (4) Nissedal, this last being in Southern Norway

2. Manganese ore mine at Suldal.

3. Molybdenum ore mines at Knaben - southern Norway.

4. Nickel mines at:

- a. Hosanger - south of West Coast
- b. Nakkerud - south east of center near Oslo
- c. Evje - southern Norway near Kristiansand

5. Tungsten ore mine at (a) Egersund - southwest coast

Blast Furnaces

(Basic operation transforming iron ore into pig iron for steel making and iron castings)

- a. Mo-I-Rana-in Nordland
- b. Bremanger Central west coast
- c. Ardal - West of Central

Steel Works

- a. Mo-I-Rana-Nordland
- b. Stavanger
- c. Oslo
- d. Drammen (near Oslo)
- e. Strommen (near Oslo)
- f. Rjukan (near Oslo)

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Rolling mills

- a. Mo-I-Ran-Nordland
- b. Bergen - West Coast

Sources:

1. Quarterly Bulletin of Steel Statistics for Europe, United Nations, December 1950.
2. European Steel Trends Economic Commission for Europe, February 1951.
3. BIASF Monthly Bulletin #6, June 1951
4. Quarterly Bulletin of Steel Statistics for Europe, June 1951
5. Norwegian Iron & Steel Industry, Vol. 24 #9, Sept. 1949

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Memorandum for [REDACTED] OPC

From Chief, D/R, ORR

STATINTL

Subject: Comments on Selected List of Installations in Norway

1. The attached list has been studied by analysts in the Economic Services Division and the Materials Division of ORR.

2. There are no comments on Sections 1 to 6. One omission is noted in Section 7 (Transportation), namely, railroad lines from Oslo north to Trondheim. The Skjønsta-Sandnes railroad line (Suitjelma) could not be located. A revised list of iron and other ore mines and pig iron and steel making facilities is attached as a substitute for mines ~~in~~ listed under Section 8 (Miscellaneous).

*B.* On the whole it ~~was~~ felt that in the event of Soviet occupation the denial or disruption of the targets listed would make Soviet occupation of Norway economically unprofitable but not untenable. ~~Norway's importance to the USSR is its location and the fact that it could serve as a haven for submarines and commerce raiders as well as a source of protection for the USSR.~~

*Classified*